

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV since 1995, I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like myself.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor and alternative choice to cable operators by being able to offer me a substantial number of local TV channels via satellite in my market area.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet through DirecTV, but the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES will result in increased competition in the broadband market by providing an affordable high-speed Internet service nationwide via satellite.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Shores  
108 Thompson Lane - Apt. A6  
Nashville, TN 37211